

December 23, 1996

Ms. Mary Schneider
Administrative Director, Radiology
New England Medical Center
171 Harrison Avenue
Boston, Massachusetts 02111

SUBJECT: INSPECTION NO. 030-01868/96-002

Dear Ms. Schneider

This letter refers to your December 2, 1996 correspondence, in response to our October 23, 1996 letter.

Thank you for informing us of the corrective and preventive actions documented in your letter. These actions will be examined during a future inspection of your licensed program.

Your cooperation with us is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:
M. Shanbaky for

Charles W. Hehl, Director
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety

Docket No. 030-01868
License No. 20-03857-06

cc:
Frances X. Masse, Radiation Safety Officer
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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Ms. Mary Schneider
New England Medical Center

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New England Medical Center

December 2, 1996

Reply to a Notice of Violation

EA 96-398
Inspection No. 030-01868/96-002
License No. 20-03857-06

US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington D.C. 20555

Gentlemen:

Following is our response to the above referenced notice of violation. The violations involved the failure to measure a 400 mR/hr radiation level on the bottom of a radioactive shipment being transported by taxi between authorized hospitals in Boston plus the resultant failure to comply with shipping regulations due to the excessive dose rate. Although measurements around the sides and top of the container both upon receipt and reshipment were in agreement with the recorded measurements of the original supplier, no bottom measurement was made due to the weight and configuration of the package. Actions taken to prevent recurrence include providing extensive training in procedures for surveying packages to all staff who receive or ship such packages, plus the creation of a revised survey form for packages of radioactive material that specifically requires a radiation measurement entry for all six surfaces of the package. These actions were taken immediately after the incident was discovered and full compliance has been achieved since the September 24 date of the inspection.

Please don't hesitate to contact F.X. Massé at 617-253-9217 if you have any questions.

Yours truly,

F.X. Massé, CHP, CMP
RSO and Chairman RSC

Mary Schneider
Administrative
Director, Radiology

FXM/nlm
c: Regional Administrator, Region I ✓

F.X. Massé, C.H.P., C.M.P.
Radiation Safety Officer

Thomas McMahon
Health Physics Section Head
Associate Radiation Safety Officer

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